

THE STORY OF PAUL OF TARSAUS

By LOUISE WARREN ATKINSON

*For the Home Work
of*

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DIRECTIONS FOR
HOME STUDY

BY
LOUISE WARREN ATKINSON



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TO THE PUPIL

This book is to be used at home, in preparing for each Sunday's lesson. Read the references to the Bible. As you read the passage, follow the suggestions and try to answer the questions given for the chapter in this book. You will then be able at the next meeting of the class, to fill in the blanks of your own "Life of Paul" easily and correctly.

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PART I

THE BOYHOOD OF PAUL

INTRODUCTION

By the boyhood of Paul we mean about the first fifteen years of Paul's life, which were spent in the city where he was born.

The verse that tells us what that city was, is Acts 21:39. What three words in this verse show Paul's pride in his native city?

Let us learn this verse, then write it below almost the only picture of Paul that any artist has attempted to make. This picture was painted by the great master, Raphael, nearly fifteen hundred years after Paul's death, and of course is only the artist's idea of how he looked. After all, his eventful life is much more to us than his appearance.

These years of boyhood show us how his training began for the great work he was to do in later years, of which we shall learn in Parts III and IV. Part II tells of his further training. Notice that each of these periods covers about fifteen years. The four "memory verses" learned one after the other give the story of Paul's life in outline.

CHAPTER I

PAUL'S NATIVE CITY, TARSUS

Did Paul grow up in a city, or in the country?

Compare his boyhood with that of Jesus, in this respect.

This is, first of all, a geography lesson. We want to know just where we can find this city of Tarsus, which was Paul's boyhood home. If the class starts out by making a pulp map of Paul's journeys, we shall know exactly, for we start the map at Tarsus. If not, take any map of the Mediterranean Sea. Put your finger on the bay in the extreme northeastern corner. Just at the left of this bay, in Asiatic Turkey, you will notice a little stream flowing down from the Taurus mountains into the sea. What do you know of the water of mountain streams?

This little river has changed its course, as well as its name, since the days of Paul. It used to be called the Cydnus, and flow through Tarsus, a city where great ships could land, about twelve miles from its mouth. Its lower course is now choked up with sand, and Tarsus is only a sleepy little Turkish town.

Besides being a port, where ships came from all parts of the world, Tarsus was also a university

town, in the time of Paul a great center of Greek learning. Today we find there St. Paul's Institute, a school for boys, and thirty miles away, Adana Seminary, where Turkish girls may be educated. Both these schools are managed by the Congregational Board of Missions. It is a very interesting thing that all the churches got together and decided that each should take certain countries to work in and start schools for the boys and girls who did not have any, so that they would not be in one another's way, and so that every one of these countries where the boys and girls do not have as much done for them as in our land would have some churches interested in them.

How do you think these schools of today compare with the ancient Greek universities?

We shall learn more of what the Greeks taught their children by and by.

Notice that Paul says that he was a *citizen* of Tarsus. Later we shall learn what that meant.

CHAPTER II

HIS JEWISH PARENTS

First read Phil. 3:5, and see what it tells us about Paul's parents.

Learn II Cor. 11:22, and see whether you think that Paul was proud of his Hebrew birth.

Notice that Paul's father before him had the Roman citizenship (Acts 22:28). He must therefore have been a man of standing in Tarsus.

Do you know any Jewish family? Have you ever been in their home? If so, it will help you to understand how Paul was brought up.

When was he given his name?

What do the Jews call this ceremony?

What was the little metal box that was fastened up beside the door?

What is it called? (*Mezuzah*.)

To which of the tribes of Israel did Paul belong?

What great king had belonged to the tribe?
See I Sam. 9:15-17.

Where did Paul get his name?

To which sect of the Jews did he belong?

What did his parents want him to be when he grew up?

Of what other boy does he remind you, in being set apart for the service of God?

Notice specially the verses which Paul's mother taught to him, when you come to them in your book.



A MEZUZAH

What were some of the stories Paul probably learned as a child?

CHAPTER III

PAUL AT SCHOOL

The picture that goes with this chapter is that of an oriental school. Look at it carefully and see how it is different from the schools you know about.

Notice the room, its furnishings, the position of the pupils, what they have to work with, the teacher and what he is doing.

Read Deut. 6:4-9, to find out what the lessons were in this school.

In what were they found?

Was Paul's school work connected with his life at home and on the Sabbath?

Do you think this was a good thing, or not?

For memory work learn vss. 6 and 7 of this same chapter.



AN ORIENTAL SCHOOL

CHAPTER IV

PAUL'S PASTIMES

You are to read for this chapter a number of verses from the letters which Paul wrote in his later years: I Cor. 9:24; I Tim. 6:12; II Tim. 2:5; II Tim. 4:7, 8.

What do you notice about all these verses?

Why do you suppose Paul had so much to say about these things?

What kind of people were the Greeks?

What did they think was "the greatest thing in the world"?

The picture that goes with this lesson is called the "Discobolus." It means the "Thrower of the Discus" (a heavy metal plate). This is one of the great pieces of statuary that the Greeks have left to us. What does it represent?

Were the Jews like the Greeks in their feeling about developing the body?

What was Paul's training in this matter? Yet with what was he surrounded, during his boyhood?

Those of you who have seen the play of *Ben Hur*, or read the story of a chariot-race, in that book or elsewhere, will be able to see the picture that was in the mind of the writer of the "memory verses," Heb. 12:1 and 2 (first part).



Myron

THE DISCOBOLUS

CHAPTER V

THE ROMANS IN TARSUS

We have seen that Tarsus was a Greek city, with its great university and its good harbor where ships came from all parts of the world. But we find that it was ruled by the Romans, who had conquered the whole known world.

Find out what you can about this great Roman empire.

Does it still exist?

What has it left to us?

If you were to go to Rome today, how much of it would you find?

Read the story told in Acts 22:25-29, of how Paul was saved by being a Roman citizen.

Notice the different ways by which one could gain this citizenship.

Did Paul purchase his?

What other citizenship did Paul possess? If his father possessed the citizenship both of Rome and of Tarsus how would he stand among the people of Tarsus?

Learn Eph. 6:14-17—a word picture that Paul drew of a soldier, in one of his letters.

CHAPTER VI

SYNAGOGUE FESTIVALS

This chapter describes the church that Paul went to, or "synagogue," as it was called. While the Greek temples were beautiful buildings with many graceful columns, and were often set in fine groves of trees, and contained exquisite statues of the god or goddess worshiped there, the Jewish synagogue was much plainer in appearance, and was often to be found in a narrow, crowded street. The Jews did not believe in statues of any kind, which they felt were strictly forbidden by the Law. In which of the commandments did they find this prohibition?

Inside, the synagogue had three main parts, like the temple at Jerusalem, for which it was a substitute in other cities. One part was for the congregation, another something like a platform for the rabbis, who read the Law, and the third was called the Ark. This was where the Scroll of the Law was kept, behind a rich curtain or sometimes a door or screen, just as a curtain hung before the Holy of Holies in the temple at Jerusalem, to which the Ark corresponded. Before this curtain or screen, you will find a light always burning in the synagogues of today.

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In the synagogue the Law and the Prophets were read and explained every Sabbath. So the "Law of Moses" was the central thing in the synagogue. Remember that the Law consisted of the first five books of the Old Testament, Genesis to Deuteronomy. Be sure that you can give their names in order.



THE TALLITH (PRAYER-SHAWL) WITH FRINGES

Learn what the Psalmist says of the Law in Ps. 119:33.

In addition to the Book of the Law, the Jews had traditions which told the people even what to wear and how to wash in the morning.

What did Paul wear when he went to the synagogue? (See picture of Prayer Shawl.)

The verses in Exod. 23:12-19 tell us some of the things the law commanded.

What is the first thing mentioned here?

Of which of the Ten Commandments does it remind you?

The Jews were told of the great feasts which God wanted them to celebrate each year. These were three in number and we can better understand them by a comparison of our festivals which come at just about the same time of year.

1. The Feast of Unleavened Bread, or the Pass-over, which celebrated their deliverance from bondage.

Our Easter which celebrates deliverance from the bondage of winter, death, and sin.

2. The Feast of First-fruits, when flowers and sheaves were brought to the temple.

Our Children's Day when we too bring flowers and dedicate our children to God's service.

3. Feast of Ingathering, or Tabernacles, when people lived in booths for ten days in remembrance of the journey from Egypt to Canaan.

Our Thanksgiving for harvest and all our national and personal blessings.

CHAPTER VII

PAUL LEARNING HIS TRADE: ACTS 18:3; 20:34

Acts 18:3 tells us what Paul's trade was.

Every Jewish boy was expected to learn some trade, and most of them chose the trade of their fathers. Tarsus was a great center for tent-making. It was famous for its tent cloth.

The process of tent-making includes: (1) the buying of the hair of mountain goats; (2) the combing and dyeing; (3) the spinning and weaving; (4) the cutting and sewing; (5) the rope-twisting and pole-making; (6) the setting-up and selling.

Could you make a model of such a tent as Paul used to make?

This trade Paul worked at all his life. Learn Acts 20:34 to see what he had to say about working at his trade.

CHAPTER VIII

LEAVING BOYHOOD BEHIND

We have now come to the time when Paul became a man. What happened at this time he tells us in I Cor. 13:11. Let us learn this beautiful verse.



A HEAD PHYLACTERY

A Jewish boy became a man, or a "son of the Law" as they said, earlier than our boys do. It happened when he was about thirteen, and the event was marked by a ceremony at the synagogue, when the phylacteries were bound about his left arm and

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his forehead. Just what these phylacteries were you can find from a Bible Dictionary or from Bird, *Paul of Tarsus*, pp. 47, 48.

Be able to describe this ceremony.

Also read what Moses said about the Law which gave the Jews the idea of the phylactery. It is found in Exod. 13:8-10, 16. These words were written after the Hebrews had left Egypt, and it is probable that they believed there would be a charm in wearing these words, just as the Egyptians wore gems to keep them from harm. We must remember that all people were superstitious in those days of long ago, which were very different from our own times.

When Paul became a son of the Law, he would, of course, leave the synagogue school and prepare to go up to Jerusalem to study in the temple, for it was decided that Paul should be a rabbi. There was probably someone in Jerusalem whose presence there made Paul even more anxious to go. Who it was, is told in Acts 23:16. This person was connected with an event which must have been another of the most vivid memories of Paul's boyhood. A description of it may be found in Bird, *Paul of Tarsus*, pp. 38, 39.

CHAPTER IX

REVIEW OF PART I

We come now to the first review lesson. It will be necessary for *you* to read over very carefully Part I of your life of Paul in preparation for this lesson.

The three questions for next Sunday will be answered readily, if you have gained a clear idea of how Paul's boyhood was spent—what sort of a city it was in which he lived, and how his family was different from most of the people who dwelt there.

PART II

PAUL'S STUDENT DAYS

INTRODUCTION

The verse to be written under the picture tells where Paul's student days were spent. It is from Acts 22:3. Begin with "but brought up," to continue the story of Paul's life in his own words, which was begun with the verse written under the picture introducing Part I.

The picture of "Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives" will be studied when we come to chap. xi.

CHAPTER X

THE JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM

The first thing to do in preparing this lesson is to get your map. Be able to point out the two routes between Tarsus and Jerusalem. Which one would Paul be more apt to take?

Then read the Pilgrim's Psalm, Ps. 122, learning at least vss. 3 and 4, in preparation for putting them into your story at the proper point.

A splendid description of a band going up to Jerusalem such as Paul probably accompanied may be found in Bird, *Paul of Tarsus*, pp. 54-62.

Notice especially: the outfit for the journey; the way they spent the nights; the cities they would pass through or near; the high mountain just at the edge of the Holy Land; the mountain where the earlier Saul fell on his sword and died; the little lake near which Jesus was then living; the point at which they would cross the Jordan, near Jericho; the point from which they would get their first view of Jerusalem.

CHAPTER XI

THE FIRST SIGHT OF THE HOLY CITY

The most impressive view of Jerusalem, the Holy City, was from the east, where the road led over the Mount of Olives. The sight that would meet Paul's eyes is shown in the picture which you have on the first page of Part II. It is the same view that Jesus had when he came with his parents from Nazareth to the Passover when he was twelve years old.

The picture is different in just one way. It shows how the city looks today. It covers the same ground as in the days of Jesus and Paul, and the buildings are of much the same sort, except where the temple and palaces used to stand.

There is now a Mohammedan mosque with a dome, in place of the temple, and the palace of the king and high-priest have disappeared. Notice how this eastern side of the city rises abruptly above the little brook Kedron far below. Here the temple, with its courts and its roof of gold, stood out in splendor.

The Jews were so proud of their city and its temple that they loved to sing the psalm which tells of its glories. The pilgrims would begin to sing as it burst upon their sight. This psalm is the 48th. Read it and learn vs. 2.

CHAPTER XII

A DAY IN THE TEMPLE

Ps. 84 shows us how the Jew felt toward the temple at Jerusalem. Read this psalm first and learn vs. 10.

Who built the first temple?

Was there another before this one was built by Herod?

In order to understand this temple thoroughly and feel as if you had been there yourself, a plan will be of great help. Each pupil should be able to draw such a plan showing:

The Royal Porch, on the south side

Court of the Gentiles

Solomon's Porch

The Beautiful Gate

Court of the Women

Nicanor Gate

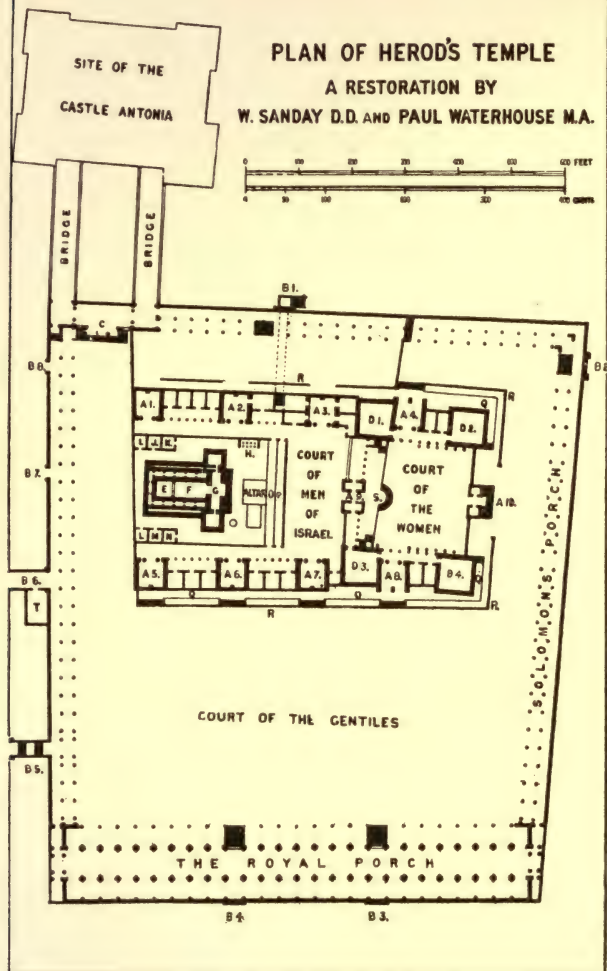
Court of the Men and Priests

Holy Place

Holy of Holies.

You will be able to find material for this in the Bible Dictionary, or in Bird, *Paul of Tarsus*, pp. 66-69, a very beautiful description.

John 2:13-22 will tell you what was to happen in the Court of the Gentiles a few years later.



CHAPTER XIII

THE GREAT TEACHER GAMALIEL

There were two schools among the Jews at this time, called the Binders and the Loosers. The Binders were very narrow and severe. The Loosers were much more broad-minded and were followers of the kind and charitable Rabbi Hillel

One of Rabbi Hillel's sayings was this: "What you yourself dislike, do not to your neighbor." Of what does this remind you?

What kind of a teacher would Paul's father choose for him? Whose grandson was Gamaliel?

Acts 5:12-42 tells a story about this great man. Read it carefully and see what you think of him. What idea does vs. 39 give you of him? This verse is well worth learning.

CHAPTER XIV

REVIEW OF PART II

You will have your book at home. Review Part II and especially the memory work. Be sure that you can give the route from Tarsus to Jerusalem, which Paul probably took. Mention also the other way of going. Think how they made the journey. Was their way of traveling much like ours?

Be prepared to sketch the plan of the temple. Compare the diagram on the preceding page of this book, with the picture in your notebook. Be sure that you understand where the parts of the picture come in the plan.

Do any of your teachers remind you of Gamaliel?

PART III

THE GREAT CHANGE IN PAUL'S LIFE

INTRODUCTION

Somewhere between the years of 30 and 40, there came a great change in Paul's life. We can scarcely recognize the temple student who grew into a rigid Pharisee and persecutor in the Paul he comes to be. What was it that worked this great change in Paul? Was his experience different from that of other young people? Or did he only reach it in a different way?

The picture to be used next Sunday is another by Raphael, giving his idea of what befell Paul on a journey to Damascus. It is one of the ten drawings that he made for the walls of the Sistine Chapel in Rome. These designs were worked in worsteds by weavers of Brussels. You can see something of the fineness of the work from the picture. Did you ever see any tapestry? If you have any in your home be ready to describe it.

The verses to be written below the picture are Paul's own description of this experience as given in Acts 22:6, 7. Notice that it continues Paul's story of his life, and commit it to memory.

While the years went by with their feasts, as we have described them, Paul kept on striving to be a perfect Pharisee believing that if he could but keep all the commands for one single day the Messiah

would come as the Pharisees taught. By whom had he been promised? Where do we read of these promises?

They did not recognize him in the boy who had been growing up in a quiet glen of Galilee. We do not know just where Paul was during the three years of Jesus' public ministry or at the time of his crucifixion. Perhaps he had gone to Tarsus on a visit. When we first hear of him in the Bible narrative, he has become a harsh persecutor of the Christians, for the rabbis see that they are teaching the people the uselessness of the many rules the rabbis consider necessary. Does persecution usually lead people to change their opinions? Did Paul follow the wise advice of his teacher in this persecution? If he had, what would have been different?

CHAPTER XV

THE STORY OF STEPHEN

Chaps. 6 and 7 of Acts tell the story of Stephen, the brilliant and earnest young man whose name has come down to us as the first to die for his belief in Jesus.

The Bible does not tell us just who Stephen was. We only know that he was not a Jew of Palestine, but had been brought up among Greek-speaking people.

What he is doing when we first hear of him in the Bible, is told in Acts 6:5.

What story does Stephen tell in his wonderful speech?

Notice that it is through Stephen that we first hear of Paul in the Bible. What is Paul doing here?

Acts 7:60 shows Stephen's spirit. Would we feel in that way toward those who wronged us? Let us learn this beautiful verse, and store it away for any such occasion which may come into our lives.

CHAPTER XVI

ON THE ROAD TO DAMASCUS

First locate Damascus on the map. Some of the people and events connected with Damascus will be found in Gen. 15:2; II Sam. 8:5, 6; II Kings 5:1-23; 14:28; 16:9.

Thus we see it has been connected with Israel's history from the very first, when Abraham passed through it on his long journey to his new home.

Find out from a Bible Dictionary or an Encyclopedia what sort of a city it was. Jer. 49:27 tells us something more about it.

How Paul happened to be going to Damascus and what happened to him on the way, you will find in the story contained in Acts, chap. 8, and 9:1-8.

Compare the Paul that we see here, mounted on a fine steed, so stern that even his attendants would scarce dare address him, with the boy we knew at Tarsus; then with the Paul described in Acts 9:4. Learn the words of Paul in Acts 22:10.

CHAPTER XVII

PREPARING FOR HIS WORK

Paul's experiences after he was led into the city of Damascus Luke tells us in the rest of the 9th chapter of Acts.

What effect the vision had upon him he tells King Agrippa years later in the words of Acts 26:19. Let us learn this verse.

It is from some of his letters that we find how he prepared for the great work before him. Read Gal. 1:13-24, to find what he says of this time in his life.

What other leaders had spent some time in the wilderness in the same way? Matt. 4:1-11. Mark 1:1-8.

Where did he then go for a time? What danger did he narrowly escape?

Notice especially what happened when he returned to Jerusalem. How would this make him feel? Who finally befriended him and introduced him to the apostles?

Where did he finally go?



HOUSES BUILT ON THE WALLS OF DAMASCUS

CHAPTER XVIII

REVIEW OF PART III

The geography of this section is important. Be sure you know just where Damascus is and learn to describe it. It is one of the most famous cities of olden times. You will remember that Paul probably passed through it first, on the way from Tarsus to Jerusalem, when a boy.

Notice that Paul's life up to this time has been all preparation. How many years did Jesus spend getting ready for his three years of service? It will be interesting to compare Paul's preparation especially after he had had his vision, with that of others of the world's great leaders. Choose any and as many as you wish and leave room to tell about them in the third question. Do not forget that any work that is worth while requires a long and thorough preparation.

PART IV

PAUL'S JOURNEYS

INTRODUCTION

After you have learned the "memory verse" for this part, Acts 22:21, repeat the four verses introducing the four parts of the story. Thus you will have Paul's own outline of his life.

We come now to the "action" in the story. At last Paul is ready to begin his work. About how old is he?

You will be given a picture of Paul armed to start forth under the banner of Jesus, into battle against the powers of darkness, which he was to meet on every side. What equipment do you think that he would select? Recall what Paul said in a previous lesson about soldiers. These verses were probably in the mind of the good monk who painted this picture long ago.

We shall follow Paul from this time forth through a series of changing scenes, which will give us a vivid picture of the world of his day. Watch to see what sort of a soldier he is to be.

A SURVEY OF THE FIRST JOURNEY

We now begin to need our maps quite constantly as Paul becomes the great traveler.

Sit down quietly with your Bible and read Acts 11:19—14:28. This will give you the Bible story of the experiences of Paul through the next year or two of his life until he came back to Antioch at the close of the first journey.

Take a map and see if you can locate the places mentioned in the story. Do you know anything about any of these places? Do you ever hear of any of them in the newspapers today?

Learn II Cor. 11:26, 27, verses which describe the sort of experiences Paul was to go through as he has himself expressed them in one of his letters.

CHAPTER XIX

THE CALL TO SERVICE

You have already read in Acts 11:19-26 what the Bible tells us about the story of the men as they gathered together in Antioch to plan how they could spread the good news of the life of Jesus, and tell not only Jews, but Greeks, how he had taught men to live that they might be truly happy.

How would the church at Jerusalem feel when they heard about this group of Jesus' followers at Antioch? Whom did they choose to go to visit them? What have you heard about the man before? How did he feel about the work that was being done at Antioch? What seemed necessary?

Recall where Paul was and what he was doing when we last heard of him. Be able to trace the route between Antioch and Tarsus. How would Paul feel when this great opportunity came to him?

CHAPTER XX

HEADQUARTERS AT ANTIOCH

Now let us turn our attention to Antioch, and find out just where it was, and what sort of a city, for it was the city which Paul made his headquarters, starting out from it on his journeys and coming back to it when they were over.

The story of Ben Hur will tell you a good deal about Antioch. What famous grove was there?

Contrast the life of the Jews with that of the other people in Antioch. There is a word which was used in Paul's time, of all those who were not Jews. This word was "Gentiles" and you will find it occurring many times in the later story of Paul.

Did Paul stay in Antioch because he liked the city so much? How long did he and Barnabas work among these people?

What name was given to the followers of Jesus by the people of this city? Do you think that such a group as they were should be called a "church"?

CHAPTER XXI

A MISSION TO JERUSALEM

You have read of a trip taken by Barnabas and Paul after they had been in Antioch about a year (Acts 11:27—12:25). Notice what caused them to make this journey, how they heard about the famine, and how they could not forget the distress of their suffering fellow-Christians.

Whether through the words of the prophet or some other report they decided what they would do. What they did will be especially interesting to us, for we see that the spirit which prompted them was very different from that shown by the Jerusalem church toward them and all who like them were not born Jews.

The church at Jerusalem was probably composed of poor Christians who were neglected by the richer classes, and had need of help from the more well-to-do Antioch Christians.

The Bible story which you have just read, tells of a remarkable occurrence which happened about this time. "Herod the king" was the grandson of the Herod who was reigning when Jesus was born. What do you think of his life and death? What two men were concerned in the story? Be able to tell the story, in an interesting way, and show

how this occurrence affected the work of the new church.

Notice who joined them on their return to Antioch, for you will hear more of him. Do you connect him with any particular book of the Bible?

CHAPTER XXII

THROUGH A NEIGHBORING ISLAND

We have learned something about the church at Antioch, and found that it kept growing larger and stronger. Paul always wanted to go where he was most needed. Do you think he would be satisfied to stay on here where others could do the work? Was it not natural that he should long to start out with the wonderful story that had burned itself into his soul? (Acts, chap. 13.)

Perhaps you know of some young man or young woman who has gone out to a far-away land, after a special training, to do this same thing. Do you also know that there is a body of Christian workers called a missionary "Board" which gives all its time to planning for such work and seeing that these workers receive the offerings which you help to send to them? Would the blessings bestowed upon these three men by the church at Antioch and the encouragement which they gave Paul's work at its commencement, mark the beginning of Christian missions?

It was an island to which they first went. What was its name? In its small way it was like a picture of the great Roman world. It had its governor. In what town did he live? It had its temples, one

of which was supposed to be the favorite shrine of the Goddess of Love, and was not far from Paphos. Notice the position of this island in the Mediterranean Sea, its peculiar shape, and the location of the towns they visited. It was natural that they should go first to this island as it was the old home of one of the three. Which one?

There were numerous Jews in the island, some perhaps working in the copper mines. What Jewish building does the story mention? Prepare to tell the story of the experience of Paul at the governor's court, so that you can write it out in good English next Sunday. What trait was it in Elymas that so aroused Paul's scorn?

We remember that the boy Paul was given two names. Recall what they were. As he now starts forth into the Roman world which would you expect him to use? What had he used up to this time? As a Roman citizen, Paul would have a full Roman name, such as Lucius Aemilius Paulus; but it has been forgotten.

CHAPTER XXIII

IN THE HEART OF ASIA MINOR

Notice that Paul now instead of Barnabas seems to be the leader of the party in leaving Cyprus, and going to Perga, a two-days' sail from the island. Note also that John Mark leaves them as they enter a strange and dangerous region. What did Paul think of this? (Acts 15:38). After landing, they did not stay on the coast, because the climate was very unhealthy for most of the year and people went up to the mountains to avoid the heat. Recall the "memory verse" for the First Journey and select from it the perils which apply to this journey.

You will have on Sunday a picture of one of these rough mountain roads as it is today in the same country. It would be a week's long and dangerous ride. At last they would come to a trading town on the Roman road. Would there be many Jews in a trading town? What was the name of this town?

Does the speech which Paul gave in the synagogue at Antioch in Pisidia remind you of any speech which you have read in Acts?

Trace Paul's route from Paphos to Antioch of Pisidia. How were Paul and Barnabas received in Antioch by the Jews, and how by the gentiles? Why did they have to leave Antioch?

Iconium was much like Damascus in its appearance from a distance. What would they see as they approached it from the rocky road?

Trace Paul's movements on the map from Antioch to Derbe. How were the travelers received in these places, and what hindered their work? Notice the incident at Lystra.

Did Paul avoid these dangerous places in returning to the sea-coast? (Acts 14:21.) Why did he revisit them all?

Below you will find a list of the principal Greek and Roman gods and goddesses. You will hear a good deal about them all through the rest of the story of Paul's life, and will probably wish to refer to this table a good many times. Which three of these divinities are mentioned in connection with the story of Paul's First Missionary Journey?

THE TWELVE PRINCIPAL GODS AND GODDESSES OF THE GREEKS AND ROMANS

GREEK NAME	ROMAN NAME	TITLE
1. Zeus	Jupiter	"Father of Gods and Men"
2. Poseidon	Neptune	God of the Sea
3. Hephaestus	Vulcan	God of Fire
4. Apollo	Apollo	Patron of Music and Art
5. Ares	Mars	God of War
6. Hermes	Mercury	Messenger of the Gods
7. Hera	Juno	"Queen of the Sky"
8. Athena	Minerva	Goddess of Wisdom
9. Aphrodite	Venus	Goddess of Beauty and Love
10. Artemis	Diana	Goddess of the Chase
11. Hestia	Vesta	Goddess of the Hearth
12. Demeter	Ceres	"Mother Earth"

A SURVEY OF THE SECOND JOURNEY

You will remember the list of places which stand at the head of the First Journey and which you used in tracing this journey upon your map after finding out something about them and Paul's experiences in them.

We have now come to the story of the Second Journey. This you will find in Acts 15:1—18:22. Read this through as you did the story of the First Journey, and do not be discouraged by the long chapter that you meet at the beginning given over almost entirely to the errand of Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem of which we shall talk in the next chapter. This time you are asked to make such a list for yourself and have it ready to put into your notebook next Sunday.

Learn as the new "memory verse," Acts 13:47. Notice who spoke these words. What words in these verses seem to apply to some of the places which you have in your list?

CHAPTER XXIV

THE CONFERENCE AT JERUSALEM

In all the world's history there have been great councils held, at which important questions have been discussed. A good example of these today is the arbitration council at The Hague, which we hope will do away with cruel warfare throughout the world.

In Acts 15:1-35 we have the story of an early council of the Christians, held at Jerusalem. Notice what the teachers from Judea claimed. Did Paul and Barnabas agree with them? To whom did they decide to submit the question? How was Paul's report of the missionary journey he and Barnabas had made received by the brethren through the country, and at Jerusalem? It was only the Christian Pharisees who claimed that gentile Christians must keep the ceremonial law (Acts 15:5).

Can you picture to yourself as you read the story the meeting where this question was discussed? Peter's earnest and liberal speech? the report of Barnabas and Paul? the action of the council represented by their leader James, the Lord's brother?

How was this decision received in Antioch? We would like to believe that all the Christians

were as generous and wise as Paul in their feeling toward their fellow-men and that this difficult question was settled forever. We shall find, however, that it came up many times during Paul's life among the gentiles.

Do all the Christians today agree with the words of Paul that "God hath made of one blood all nations of men"? What do we mean when we say "All men are brothers"?

CHAPTER XXV

PAUL'S YOUNG FRIEND

After Paul and Barnabas had spent some time with the Antioch Christians, and that troublesome question which had sent them to Jerusalem seemed to be settled, they began to think of the Christians they had left in the different cities they had visited. They wanted to get back to learn how they were getting on.

They decided to make this visit, but there was one thing upon which they could not agree. What was this? and what made Paul feel as he did? What became of Barnabas? Do we know anything more of Mark (Col. 4:10)?

You will find the story in Acts 15:36—16:5, which also tells who did go with Paul and what further journey they decided to make. One of his companions will be especially interesting to us. Find all you can about the young man who now became Paul's nearest friend and greatest helper. Prepare to tell it in your own way. It is a very beautiful story.

All through the rest of Paul's life this loyal worker is found to be closely associated with the labors of his dearly beloved teacher. We have two letters of Paul which were written to him long afterward.

Find them in your Bible and read as much of them as you can, for they contain some of the finest things that Paul has written.

CHAPTER XXVI

ENTERING A NEW CONTINENT

As you read over the story of this chapter (Acts 16:6-40) you will find that the writer has a good deal to say about visions. Do you think that it was because Paul lived so near to God that he seemed to be able to know what God wanted him to do? Something told him to press on to the sea-coast, a very long journey when men went by foot as we suppose these men did. Did you ever hear the name of the port at which they finally arrived? What ancient city is connected with it? In their leaving Troas what do we find to illustrate the "memory verse"?

A little word sometimes means a great deal. There is one word in this part of the story that you should notice very carefully and watch for from this time on. It is the little word "We." It is this word which tells us who wrote the book of Acts. It must have been someone who went with Paul and Silas and Timothy in the sail-boat that crossed the Aegæan Sea. Can you tell who it was? At what large island would they anchor for the night?

What country would they now be in? What was the northern city to which they went, the military center of this part of the world—a small Rome?

What had happened there one hundred years before ? You will find this in your Roman history, the Encyclopedia, and Shakspeare's play, *Julius Caesar*.

Notice Paul's experiences at Philippi; his first convert; the case of the clairvoyant; Paul's arrest; the conversion of the jailer; Paul's vindication and release.

CHAPTER XXVII

VARIED FORTUNES IN NORTHERN CITIES

Greece was naturally divided into two sections as you will see by your maps. There was a great difference in the people of northern and southern Greece. The North had few large cities. It was also more wild in its scenery. What sort of people do we usually find living in a mountainous country?

What is that country like today? What happening that took place in recent time illustrates this well?

What is the city just beyond the three-pointed promontory to which the travelers next went? It is a flourishing commercial city today.

The next place you will find in the mountains just off the great Roman road on which there were milestones telling the distance from the central golden milestone in the city of Rome.

Notice what befell the travelers in these two cities and what class of people were particularly interested in their message. To which of these two cities did Paul send two letters which are supposed to be the oldest books in the New Testament?

This part of the story will be found in Acts 17:1-15.

CHAPTER XXVIII

TWO GREAT CENTERS OF GREEK LIFE

Read over Acts 17:16—18:22.

What two cities are of special interest in the story of this journey? Find as many pictures of them as you can. Study them and be able to tell something of the appearance of each city and for what each was noted. Your Greek history will help you here.

What were Paul's experiences in these places? Of which does I Cor. 10:31 remind you?

CHAPTER XXIX

REVIEW OF THE FIRST AND SECOND JOURNEYS

As you look back over Paul's various experiences since he first set out from Antioch with Barnabas, was it those to whom his preaching was new that made the trouble for him, or another sort of people? Who was it that interfered with his work in Antioch in the mountains, in Iconium, and again in Beroea and Corinth? Were they not all persons who might have been expected to help him?

In these two journeys we have made the acquaintance of the man who was the author of the Book of Acts. Where did Paul meet him? From what city is he supposed to have come? What little pronoun in the story shows us when he is with Paul? Notice that this story of Paul's experiences was not written until after most, if not all, of Paul's letters. Which of Paul's letters are the oldest books in the New Testament?

In these travels was Paul preaching in places where the gospel was already known, or in fields where no missionaries had previously been? Which did he consider his mission? See Rom. 15:20, 21.

Compare the news which he brought to Europe with that brought by Columbus. Suppose each had gone eastward.

A SURVEY OF THE THIRD JOURNEY

Read Acts 18:23—20:38, for the story of the third journey.

Learn Acts 18:24. Be able to trace Paul's course on the map.

CHAPTER XXX

ONE OF PAUL'S LETTERS: GALATIANS 1:1—6:18

Paul had been gone for three years on his second journey. He now settled down in Antioch for some time before setting out again. And while he was here, it is thought that he sent letters to some of the churches. He was troubled especially about the churches in Galatia. Where is Galatia? Some unfriendly men had been there, trying to prejudice the people against him. So he wrote the letter which we call Galatians. Paul had probably written, before this, two letters to the Thessalonians. Perhaps Timothy did the actual writing of what Paul dictated.

Read chaps. 1 and 2 of this letter through, noticing especially what Paul says about himself, more than he tells anywhere else. Your teacher will help you to divide the letter into five different parts.

CHAPTER XXXI

OLD FRIENDS AND A NEW CITY

Paul now leaves Antioch for the last time, Timothy with him. As they go by the way of Tarsus into Asia over Paul's old course, what towns and churches would they revisit? In which of these had Timothy been brought up (Acts 16:1)? With what special matter did Paul charge these churches, upon this journey (Acts 16:4)?

Be able to tell something of Ephesus and for what it was famous.

Whom did he find at work there and what was his first service? Where did Paul preach at first in Ephesus? When and why did he leave it? In what room did he next preach, and how long did he continue to use it? Notice the success of Paul's work in Ephesus (19:10-20). What were Paul's plans at this time? Be able to tell the story of the riot at Ephesus. How did the town clerk quiet it? Have you ever seen a riot? What are the riots of our own day chiefly about? Are there any places in the world where riots about religion take place in our own times?



DIANA OF THE EPHESIANS

CHAPTER XXXII

SOME FAREWELL VISITS

Read Acts 20:1-38. What was Paul's route from Ephesus to Corinth and from Corinth to Miletus? What were Paul's plans of travel when he wrote from Corinth to the Romans (Rom. 15:24-28)? What danger threatened Paul at Corinth which decided him to change his route? What happened at Troas?

Notice the touching farewell to Ephesus friends of which we read at this point in the story. Do you think that if Paul should never see the Ephesians again they would ever forget his words or fail to follow his teaching?

Find out whether Ephesus still retains its former glory. Is it a Christian city?

A SURVEY OF THE LAST JOURNEYS

The last part of the story of Paul is found in the last eight chapters of the book of Acts, 21-28.

We shall not read the entire story at one time as has been done in the case of the other journeys. The story may be divided into four parts: Paul's last visit to Jerusalem, his imprisonment at Caesarea, the long voyage to Rome, and what we know of his life and probable death there. We will pass on to the beginning of the story after learning the final "memory verse" which you will find in the second letter that Paul wrote to Timothy in chap. 4, vs. 7. You will find a place to write it, before the story is finished.

CHAPTER XXXIII

A FINAL VISIT TO JERUSALEM

The word "we" in Acts 21:15, 16, 17, etc., shows that Luke was one of Paul's companions at this time.

What three islands would the ship pass as they sailed along? Which one contained one of the "Seven Wonders of the World"? In which one had Paul labored with Barnabas?

Who was Agabus and what did he say to Paul? What did Paul answer to all the suggestions of his friends?

You will find the story of this troubled visit in Acts 21:15—23:35. Read them carefully and think of the following questions: How was Paul received by the brethren in Jerusalem? What aroused the Jews against him? How did he escape death?

Did Paul ever lose an opportunity to give his message? Was he unusual in this? What striking opportunity did he seize of speaking to the crowd? What did he say to them? In what language did he speak? How did his Roman citizenship save him at this time?

Before whom was he brought for examination? What was the result?

What boy saved his life and how did he do it? What encouraged Paul in all this danger?

CHAPTER XXXIV

A PRISONER IN CAESAREA

Reread Acts, chaps. 24-26, and note now why Paul came to be taken to Caesarea. What have you heard about the city before? There are at least three things which you should remember about it.

Before whom was Paul first tried there? Why was Paul not released? How long was he kept at Caesarea?

By whom was Paul next examined? Describe his defense before Agrippa. What did Agrippa think? To whom did Paul appeal, and why?

What do you think was Paul's dearest wish at this time?

CHAPTER XXXV

THE LONG VOYAGE TO ROME

You probably read when you were younger the thrilling adventures of Robinson Crusoe, his shipwreck and his life on the desert island. Since then you have doubtless read many other tales of sea voyages ending in diasaster. We think that none of these was more interesting than the one which you are about to read, a journey from the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea to the peninsula of Italy at a time when there were no steam but only rude sailing vessels. The ships were at the mercy of wind and waves.

You will find the story in the 27th chapter of Acts and it will be all the more interesting because upon the ship is our good friend Paul in chains.

You must recall why Paul was sent to Rome and why he would go in charge of a soldier. What is a centurion? See Acts 10:1; Matt. 8:5; Mark 15:39. Of what other centurions have you heard? What sort of men do they appear to have been? It will interest you to note that his good friends would not allow him to go alone? Who went with him?

As you read, trace the route of the ship from Caesarea to Myra, from Myra to Fair Havens, from

Fair Havens to Melita. On what island was the third of these places? Through what famous strait did he pass before reaching Italy? What has happened there in recent times? Learn to describe the shipwreck.

What do you think of the way in which Paul acted during all these perils and hardships? Does he come up to your expectations?

CHAPTER XXXVI

PAUL IMPRISONED IN CAESAR'S CITY

Paul had for a long time wanted to go to Rome. From what man and woman had he heard much of the city? What do you know of Rome at this time? Who was the emperor? What sort of a man was he?

Read the rest of the Book of Acts to find out how Paul lived in Rome and what happened to him there. Notice what was his first act in becoming settled in this city; what opportunities he had to preach the gospel and what use he made of them. Were his friends allowed to come to see him? Who were some of these? Col. 4:7-17; II Tim. 1:16.

If you went to Rome today among its points of special interest you would be shown a beautiful church called "St. Paul's Outside the Walls" and would be told that here was buried the body of the great apostle. Tradition tells us that he was beheaded very near the spot where this church stands. We cannot be certain of this, though we know that he was in the city just before the horrible persecution of the reign of Nero. You will some day be interested in the story of the sufferings of the Christians in Rome at this time, a tale of which you will find

in a novel written by Sienkiewicz, called *Quo Vadis*. There are a number of other historical novels inspired by the story of the early Roman Christians.

CHAPTER XXXVII

SOME OF PAUL'S LAST MESSAGES

We have already learned of the thirteen letters of Paul which have come down to us. Of these, five were written from the Roman prison, where Paul was probably chained to a guard continually. It is not strange that he had a good deal to say of soldiers at this time, since he saw more of them than of any others. The verses that you have learned about the Christian soldiers were written at this time. On the other hand, Paul must have given these soldiers something to think about.

These letters tell us of some of the people who came to see Paul in his prison. (See Phil. 2:25-30; Eph. 6:21, 22; II Tim. 4:11, 21.) Phil. 4:18 tells of a gift that came to him.

Read the short letter to Philemon, for the story of a runaway slave. What is the slave's name? Who is Philemon, and in what city does he live? What other letter to the church in this city was sent with this one? What does Paul call this slave? How does he speak of himself? What is the great message of Paul's life to the world?

CHAPTER XXXVIII

FINAL REVIEW

The final review has been put in the form of a table. The first column describes twelve different cities. In the second, you are to put the name of the city, and Paul's connection with it. These cities suggest events in Paul's life from his birth to his last days. The list will serve to show you with how many cities Paul's eventful career was connected and to review much of what happened.

The second question you have probably been thinking about all through the course. We have seen that God chose Paul to interpret Jesus to the world after His earthly life was ended. As you have passed over his life and many varying experiences in different lands, what two traits do you think especially fitted him for his unique work? Could a man who was half-hearted do the work? Was Paul different from the Jewish Christians in his understanding of the message of Jesus? Are we in need of men of Paul's type today?

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